Clean Version of Amended Claims

5. A method according to claim 3, characterised in that a mixture of equimolar quantities of both partners of a pair of synthetic oligonucleotides, which together correspond to a preferably 90 bp long section from the nucleic acid region of the reverse transcriptase gene between the highly conserved motifs V L P Q G and Y M/V D D I/V/L L , is in each case used as immobilised RDBH probes.

7. A use of one or several synthetic oligonucleotide(s) whose nucleotide sequence(s) correspond(s) with the nucleic acid region of a retrovirus-specific reverse transcriptase gene between the highly conserved motifs V L P Q G and Y M/V D D I/V/L L or with a section of this nucleic acid region as reverse dot blot hybridisation probe(s) in a method according to claim 3.

8. A use of equimolar quantities of two synthetic oligonucleotides which together, positioned one after the other, correspond to a preferably 90 bp long section from the nucleic acid region of the reverse transcriptase gene between the highly conserved motifs V L P Q G and Y M/V D D I/V/L L as reverse dot blot hybridisation probe(s) in a method according to claim 3.

9. A diagnosis kit for the specific detection and identification of retroviral nucleic acids/retroviruses in an arbitrary specimen, comprising at least one of the primer mixtures consisting of forward and reverse primers for the PCR according to claim 1 and at least one reverse dot blot hybridisation probe according to claim 7.

Version Showing the Changes Made

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the following claims:

5. A method according to [one of claims 3 or 4] claim 3, characterised in that a mixture of equimolar quantities of both partners of a pair of synthetic oligonucleotides, which together correspond to a preferably 90 bp long section from the nucleic acid region of the reverse transcriptase gene between the highly conserved motifs V L P Q G and Y M/V D D I/V/L L , is in each case used as immobilised RDBH probes.

7. A use of one or several synthetic oligonucleotide(s) whose nucleotide sequence(s) correspond(s) with the nucleic acid region of a retrovirus-specific reverse transcriptase gene between the highly conserved motifs V L P Q G and Y M/V D D I/V/L L or with a section of this nucleic acid region as reverse dot blot hybridisation probe(s) in a method according to to [one of claims 3 to 6] claim 3.

8. A use of equimolar quantities of two synthetic oligonucleotides which together, positioned one after the other, correspond to a preferably 90 bp long section from the nucleic acid region of the reverse transcriptase gene between the highly conserved motifs V L P Q G and Y M/V D D I/V/L L as reverse dot blot hybridisation probe(s) in a method according to [one of claims 3 to 6] claim 3.

9. A diagnosis kit for the specific detection and identification of retroviral nucleic acids/retroviruses in an arbitrary specimen, comprising at least one of the primer mixtures consisting of forward and reverse primers for the PCR according to claim 1 and at least one reverse dot blot hybridisation probe according to claim 7 [or claim 8].